

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, IT
SUBJ: CIVAIR: AIRPORT MANAGEMENT COMPANIES PROPOSE ANOTHER
INCREASE IN GROUND HANDLING FEES

1. PAN AM ROME MANAGER INFORMED EMBOFF ON JUNE 1 THAT AEROPORTI
DI ROMA (AR) AND SOCIETA' ESERCIZIO AEROPORTUALE (SEA)
OF MILAN WERE PRESSING MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT FOR APPROVAL OF
100 PERCENT INCREASE OF CURRENT GROUND HANDLING FEES. HE
ASKED EMBASSY FOR SUPPORT FOF FOREGOING AIRLINES, OPPOSITION
TO PROPOSED INCREASE.

2. FOREIGN AIRLINES ORGANIZATION (CIVI) SENT FOLLOWING
TELEX TO UNDERSECRETARY DEGAN AND DGCA COLLINI:

BEGIN TEXT: WITH REFERENCE TO MEETINGS BEING HELD BY SANGALLI
COMMITTEE AT MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT IN ORDER TO ADJUST PRESENT
AIRPORT CHARGES THE UNDERSIGNED PRESIDENT OF CIVI STEERING
COMMITTEE OF FOREIGN AIRLINES BOARD WISHES TO INFORM THE MI-
NISTER OF TRANSPORT THAT ANY INCREASES IN AIRPORT CHARGES
WOULD BE HIGHLY UNJUSTIFIED. PRESENT CHARGES ARE ALREADY
EXCESSIVE WHEN CONSIDERING THE LEVEL OF SERVICES BEING OFFERED
AT ITALIAN AIRPORTS AND IN ANY EVENT MUCH HIGHER THAN THOSE
IN EFFECT IN OTHER COMPARABLE COUNTRIES. PRESENT CHARGES
AND LATEST HANDLING FEES RESULT INCOMPATIBLE WITH UNIT BENEFITS
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DERIVED BY CARRIERS WHO ARE HEAVILY PENALIZED AS IT CONCERNS
THEIR SERVICES TO AND FROM ITALY DUE TO THE FACT THAT STREAMS
OF TRAFFIC ARE MAINLY OF A TOURIST NATURE. MOREOVER THE LIRA
DEVALUATION ALTHOUGH IT HAS PARTIALLY ALLOWED FOREIGN CARRIERS
TO CONTROL THE EXCESSIVE GROWTH OF AIRPORT CHARGES HAS DRA-
MATICALLY REDUCED REVENUES DERIVED IN ITALY. THE UNDERSIGNED
WISHES TO APPEAL TO THE MINISTER'S SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY

WITH THE AIM TO INTERRUPT THE ROCKETING SPIRAL EXPERIENCED OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS OF AIRPORT CHARGES GROWING AT A RATE THAT IS UNFORTUNATELY INVERSELY PROPORTIONAL TO THE LEVEL OF SERVICES AND IS CONFIDENT THAT THE PROPOSED INCREASES WILL NOT BE TAKEN IN CONSIDERATION. SINCERELY G. INSERRA. END TEXT.

3. EMBOFF SUPPORTED PAN AM/CIVI OBJECTIONS BY NOTING TO LIOI (CIVILAVIA) AND DI MUCCIO (MFA) THAT 100 PERCENT OR 80 PERCENT (AS REPORTED IN NEWSPAPERS) INCREASE IN GROUND HANDLING FEES PROBABLY WOULD MAKE ROME AND MILAN FEE LEVELS HIGHEST IN EUROPE AND THAT ANY SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE SEMMED UNWARRANTED FOLLOWING STEEP INCREASES OF RECENT MONTHS. LIOI PROMISED TO CONVEY EMBOFF'S REPRESENTATIONS TO DGCA COLLINI AND LATER CONFIRMED HE HAD DONE SO. LIOI ALSO SAID FIRST MEETING AT MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT ON THIS FEE INCREASE RESULTED IN KNOCKING DOWN REQUEST TO A 50 PERCENT INCREASE.HOLMES

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